



NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

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WEATHER & CROPS



Week Ending: October 9, 2011

Number: 31

Released: October 11, 2011

WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 9, 2011

Conducive weather throughout Virginia made it a wonderful week for fieldwork. Days suitable for fieldwork were 6.4. A few producers started harvesting full-season soybeans and a few began to plant wheat. Tobacco and corn harvest continued. Peanut growers were able to get combines in the fields due to the drier weather. Cotton harvest continued. Vegetable farmers are harvesting the last of the tomatoes, squash, peppers, and other summer crops. Pumpkins, winter squash and greens are being gathered for market.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
September 11, 2011	1	13	67	19
September 18, 2011	1	15	71	13
September 25, 2011	1	9	67	23
October 2, 2011	1	11	67	21
October 9, 2011	2	19	71	8

SUBSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
September 11, 2011	8	14	66	12
September 18, 2011	7	17	68	8
September 25, 2011	6	14	65	15
October 2, 2011	7	12	66	15
October 9, 2011	6	17	68	9

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Virginia Cooperative Extension Service

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CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture	5	7	30	49	9
Livestock	1	5	24	55	15
Hay, Other	7	11	31	38	13
Hay, Alfalfa	2	6	27	50	15
Soybeans	0	3	19	63	15
Peanuts	0	2	40	44	14
Cotton	0	11	58	30	1
Apples, All	0	0	37	60	3

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Corn Mature	94	87	99	99
Corn for Grain Harvested	77	63	87	69
Corn Silage Harvested	93	89	100	96
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	56	44	85	69
Soybeans Harvested	5	2	13	8
Winter Wheat Seeded	32	28	22	16
Barley Seeded	53	40	46	47
Oats for Grain Seeded	52	50	51	25
Flue-cured Tobacco Harvested	80	76	81	83
Peanuts Dug	28	8	26	42
Peanuts Combined	13	4	11	27
Cotton Bolls Opening	94	87	92	93
Cotton Harvested	23	1	29	23
Fall Apples Harvested	55	49	68	78
Winter Apples Harvested	25	NA	64	43

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 9, 2011

City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base 50) 1/		Precipitation				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	Mar. 1 to Oct. 8	Mar. 1 to Oct. 8 normal	Last Week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	69	43	77	39	56	-5	3902	3630	0.06	4.56	-0.29	28.21	-6.19
Norfolk	69	52	76	48	61	-5	4642	4056	0.00	7.48	2.46	45.79	8.57
Richmond	69	49	77	47	59	-4	4424	3934	0.02	9.01	4.04	38.59	3.51
Roanoke	69	47	78	45	58	-3	4071	NA	0.01	7.41	2.70	32.50	-1.71
Wash/Dulles	66	45	74	42	55	-5	3929	NA	0.16	8.92	4.21	34.28	1.32

* Normal based on 1971-2000 data. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>. Source: USDA, NASS, Virginia Field Office.

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY

Comments are based on comments reported by extension agents, farmers, commodity specialists, and other knowledgeable individuals.

NORTHERN

FREDERICK (Jeanette R. Smith)

Received rainfall throughout the weekend and cool temperatures.

WESTERN

ROCKBRIDGE (Tom Stanley)

Warm and dry conditions this week allowed field work to progress in a timely manner. Soil moisture is adequate in most fields.

CENTRAL

AMELIA (Joan D Poore)

Monday and Tuesday were very cool, dry and overcast conditions. Wednesday and Friday has been pleasant, dry, and sunny. It is expected to be a little warmer Saturday and Sunday, dry conditions. Good weather for harvesting corn. Most soybeans are not ready for harvest.

APPOMATTOX (Bruce Jones)

Burley tobacco harvest finished this past week. This week was very active with hay harvest, small grain planting and soybean harvest. Farmers are glad to see the rain today.

CAROLINE (McGann Saphir)

Corn harvest is back up to speed, as fields dry down. Yields are good to excellent where corn has not fallen excessively. Farmers are rushing to finish up while the weather is still good. Soybeans are still looking very good and are giving up their leaves and starting to dry down. Bean harvest has not started

(Central continued.)

in earnest. Vegetable farmers are bringing in the last of the tomatoes, squash, peppers, and other summer crops. Pumpkins, winter squash and greens are being gathered for market.

CHESTERFIELD (Joan D Poore)

Weather conditions have been sunny since Wednesday with dry air, very pleasant conditions for corn harvest to begin if the soil is dry enough. Saturday and Sunday are expected to be sunny and pleasant also.

HANOVER (Jim Tate)

Good week for making hay. Lots of hay made late in the week. Third cutting for a lot of places observed with good yields. Soybean harvest has started on full season beans. Double crop beans are still green and growing. Some fields appear to have been seeded in small grain and fall cover but these crops are not yet visible.

NELSON (Michael Lachance)

Later season wine grape varieties yielding low quality fruit due to excessive rains in the early fall.

EASTERN

ESSEX (Keith Balderson)

A good week for field work allowed farmers to make good progress on corn harvesting and barley planting. A few producers started planting wheat and harvesting full-season soybeans. Farmers also continued to apply lime, fertilizer and burn-down herbicides for small grain planting. Farmers were also busy cutting hay.

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY (continued)

Comments are based on comments reported by extension agents, farmers, commodity specialists, and other knowledgeable individuals.

SOUTHEASTERN

(Southeastern continued.)

BRUNSWICK (Cynthia L. Gregg)

The past week saw some good weather and folks harvesting tobacco and corn as well as cutting a last hay cutting. The weather is cooling off and fescue is stockpiling. Fall calving is well underway.

PRINCE GEORGE (Scott Reiter)

A week of warm temperatures and some sun have finally allowed harvest to progress this week. It was especially helpful for peanut growers that needed to get combines in the field. Wet soil conditions still hamper access to some fields for harvest and preparation for small grain seeding. Some soybean harvest started this week for those finished with their corn crop.

SOUTHAMPTON (John Rudy)

The dry week has helped. Cotton harvest is moving along. Peanuts are being dug. Expect some rain this week which will again slow the cotton and peanut harvest. Soybeans continue to dry down and scouting for pests continues.

SURRY (Glenn Slade)

We had a good harvest week with crops finally drying out. Peanut yields are good with reports of 4000 lbs/acre. However some cotton is disappointing with a lot of hard lock. Corn harvest is progressing well with some bottoms being left out.

SUSSEX (Kelvin Wells)

A good work week for harvest. Corn harvest is coming to an end and cotton and peanut harvest is in full swing. Yields are good and we hope good weather continues.



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